Lesson-8 Part 1 Mohan, usha and Grandfather

अयं शनिवासरः ।

उषा मोहन् च पितामहं प्रति गत्वा वदतः ।

It is Saturday. Usha and Mohan approach their grandfather and ask him.

उषा, मोहन्- तात श्वः रविवासरः ।

चलच्चित्रं द्रष्टुं गच्छामः वा ?

Grandfather, tomorrow is Sunday.
Shall we go and watch a movie?

पितामहः - न,न । परन्तु कामाक्षीदेवालयं गच्छामः ।

No, no. Instead let us go to the Kamakshi temple.

उ, मो - कृपया चलच्चित्रं द्रष्टुं एव गच्छामः ।

आवां भवन्तं चलच्चित्रं द्रष्टुं नेष्यावः एव ।

Please let us go only to see the movie.
We will take you to see the movie only.

पितामहः - अरे ! युवां न स्मरथः किम् ?

पूर्वस्मिन् पाठे दूरदर्शनं प्रति किं अवदतम् इति ?

Hey, don't you remember what you said in the last lesson, about the television program?

तत् नर्तनं द्रष्टुं एवं गानं श्रोतुं, न आगमिष्यामि इति खलु ।

That I will not go to see that singing and dancing.

उ,मो - भवतः अनुमतिं विना एव,

आवां तिस्रः उपवेशिकाः आरक्षाव ।

Even without your permission, we have reserved three seats.

किं स्यात् चलच्चित्रस्य नाम ? .... महाभारतम् ।

What would be the name of the movie? ..... Mahabharatam !

Lesson-8 Part 2 Scene at Home

पितामहः पौत्रौ च महाभारतं नाम चलच्चित्रं
दृष्ट्वा गृहं प्रत्यागच्छन् ।

Scene after the three have watched the film and returned home.

मोहन् - अहो ! कति नायकाः नायिकाः एकस्मिन् चलच्चित्रे !
Oh! how many heros ans heroines in one movie!
तेषां परस्परसंबन्धान् ज्ञातुं मे बहु कष्टं अस्ति ।

It is difficult for me to understand (know) their relationships.

तथापि नीलश्यामलं कृष्णं, तथा तस्य क्रीडां द्रष्टुं अतीव उत्सुकोऽस्मि ।

But of course I am eager to see the dark blue Krishna and his (divine) actions.

उषा- अस्तु एवं , तथापि तेषां परस्पर संबन्धान् इदानीमपि नावगच्छामि ।

May be so, but I cannot understand their relationships even now.

तात ! वदतु तावत् , कोऽयं गौरवर्णः पाण्डुः नाम ?
Grandfather! Please tell who that fair skinned (almost white skinned) person called Pandu.
कथं तस्य अन्धपुरुषेण संबन्धः ?
What is his relationship with the blind person?

मोहन् - मम अपि एवं एव ।

Same here. (means: I too have the same question)

तत्र पितामहः इति यं ते आहुः , सः वस्तुतः तेजस्वी महान् च प्रतिभाति ।

The one whom they called grandfather, appeared really radiant and great.

उषा - अहो ! आश्चर्यं , अरे दुर्योधनस्य किं एकोनशतं भ्रातरः आसन् ?
Oh! Amazing ! Did Duryodhana really have ninetynine brothers?

पितामहः - शृणु , एवं पृच्छतः चेत् प्रत्युत्तरं
दातुं न शक्नोमि ।

Listen, if you pester me like this I cannot answer.

अहं तावत् महाभारतकथां एव वर्णयामि ।
अद्य कौरवपाण्डवानां जन्मपर्यन्तं कथयामि ।

I will now tell you the story of the Mahabharata.

Today I will tell you upto the birth of the Kauravas and Pandavas.

Lesson 8 Part 3:
Pandavas and Kauravas

रविवासरे - Sunday

पितामहः - शन्तनुः खलु सोमवंशे राजा ।
तस्य त्रयः पुत्राः आसन् ।

Shantanu (was) the king of the Soma (Lunar) dynasty. He had three sons.

ज्येष्ठमहिष्यां गङ्गायां भीष्मः नाम पुत्रः अभवत् ,
सत्यवत्यां द्वितीयायां भार्यायां द्वौ पुत्रौ ।
विचित्रवीर्यः च चित्राङ्गदश्च ।

Through his first Consort Ganga, he had a son called Bhishma. From the second wife Satyavati he had two sons, Vichitraveerya and Chitrangada.

भीष्मस्य नाम पूर्वं देवव्रतः इति आसीत् ।

Bhishma was earlier known as Devavrata.

यदा तेन आजीवनं ब्रह्मचर्यव्रतं धृतं , तदा तस्य नाम
भीष्म इति प्रसिद्धं अभवत् ।

When he took a vow of celebacy for his entire life, he became famous and his name Bhishma.

बाल्य एव चित्राङ्गदं एको गन्धर्वः अहन् ।
विचित्रवीर्यो अपि यौवनावस्थायां
एव रोगग्रस्तो भूत्वा दिवंगतः ।

During his childhood itself, Chitrangada was killed by a Gandharva (Semidivine being). Vichitraveerya too died in his youth

due to disease.

तस्य भार्ययोः एवं दास्यां त्रयः पुत्राः अभवन् ।

तेषां नामानि क्रमेण धृतराष्ट्रः पाण्डुः एवं विदुरः ।

He had three sons from his two wives and a maid. Their names were Dhritrashtra, Pandu and Vidura respectively.

पितामहः - मोहन् वद विचित्रवीर्यस्य भीष्मेण कः संबन्धः ?

Mohan, tell the relationship between Vichitraveerya and Bhishma.

मोहन् - समातृजो भ्राता ।

Step brother.

चित्राङ्गदः विचित्रवीर्यस्य भ्राता ।

Chtrangada was the brother of Vichitraveerya.

पितामहः - उषे , त्वं ब्रूहि पाण्डोः विचित्रवीर्येण कः संबन्धः इति ।

Usha, you tell, what is the relationship between Pandu and Vichitraveerya.

उषा - पिता च पुत्रः ।

Father and Son.

पितामहः - ततः भीष्मः .... ?

Then Bhishma ....?

उषा- भीषमः पाण्डोः ज्येष्ठपितृव्यः ।

Bhishma was Pandu’s Father’s elder brother (Uncle. Note the specific reference to father’s elder brother)

पितामहः - पाण्डोः द्वे भार्ये आस्ताम् । कुन्ती माद्री च ।

Pandu had two wives. Kunthi and Madri.

कुन्ती भगवतः श्रीकृष्णस्य पितृव्या (पितृस्वसा) आसीत् ।

Kunthi was Lord SriKrishna’s father’s sister (Aunt).

माद्री मद्रदेशीया राजकन्या आसीत् ।

Madri was the princess of the kingdom of Madra.

तस्या अपि शल्यः नाम भ्राता आसीत् ।

She also had a brother by name Salya.

मद्रदेशः तदानीं भारतदेशस्य वायव्य दिग्भागे
एकः प्रदेशः आसीत् ।

In those days, Madradesa was a kingdom in the northwest of Bharat (part of present day Afghanistaan).

Lesson 8 Part 4

पितामहः - यस्मात् धृतराष्ट्रः जन्मप्रृति अन्धः
आसीत् , तस्मात् सः
सिंहासनं आरोढुं न अशक्नोत् ।

Since Dhritarashtra was congenitally blind, he could not ascend the throne.

ततः पाण्डुः हस्तिनापुरस्य राजा अभवत् ।

So Pandu became the king of Hastinapura.

हस्तिनापुरी कुरुपाञ्चालदेशस्य राजधानी आसीत् ।

Hastinapuri was the capital of the KuruPanchala Desa.

पाण्डोः पञ्च पुत्राः आसन् ।

Pandu had five sons.

त्रयः कुन्त्यां, एवं द्वौ माद्र्यां च ।

Three from Kunthi and two from Madri.

पुत्रजननानन्तरं पाण्डुः शीघ्रमेव मृतः अभवत् ।

Soon after the birth of his sons, Pandu died.

तदानीं माद्री अपि पत्या सह दिवंगता ।

Then Madri entered the funeral pyre along with her husband.

धृतराष्ट्रस्य गान्धार्यां शतं पुत्राः आसन्, एका सुता च ।

Dhritarashtra had a hundred sons and a daughter through Gandhari.

पितामहः - उषे वद , इदानीं कुन्त्याः कति पुत्राः

आसन् ? के एते ?
Usha, now tell, how many sons did Kunthi have?
Who are they?

उषा - त्रयः , युधिष्ठिरः , भीमसेनः , अर्जुनश्च ।

Three, Yudhishtira , Bhimasena and Arjuna.

पितामहः - मोहन् , जानासि वा माद्र्याः द्वयोः
पुत्रयोः नाम किमिति ?
Mohan, do you know what the names of the
two sons of Madri are?

मोहन् - एकः नकुलः , अन्यः सहदेवः ।

One was Nakula and the other Sahadeva.

पितामहः - तयोः कः जेष्ठः ?
Who was elder among them?

मोहन् - कथं ? तौ यमलौ खलु ?
How ? They were twins (were’nt they?)

पितामहः - सम्यक् , तथाऽपि नकुलो ज्येष्ठः

Good, Even then Nakula was the elder.
(It appears that there was a system of ranking twins too as elder and younger. What would be of interest here is to know that the one born first will be the younger! The concept is that the one born second has spent more time in his mother’s womb.)

धृतराष्ट्रस्य पुत्रेषु कः जेष्टः ?
Well, who was the elder among the sons of Dhritarashtra?

मो , उ - सुयोधनः ।

Suyodhana.

पितामहः - आं , परन्तु तस्य दुर्मतिं दृष्ट्वा दुर्योधनः
इति तं अवदन् ।

Yes, on account of the wickedness seen in him,
he was called Duryodhana.

दुर्योधनादीनां का सहोदरी आसीत् ?
Who was the sister of the Duryodhana brothers?

मोहन् - दुश्शला ।
Dussala.

पितामहः - अभिमन्युः कस्य पौत्रः आसीत् ?
Whose grandson was Abhimanyu?

मोहन् - अभिमन्योः पितामहः पाण्डुः ।
Abhimanyu’s grandfather was Pandu.

उषा - तात तात ! पुत्रस्य पुत्रः पौत्रः चेत् पुत्र्याः
पुत्रः कः ?
Grandfather! if one’s son’s son is called poutra, then who is one’s daughter’s son ?

पितामहः - उत्तमः प्रश्नः । तं दौहित्रः इति वदन्ति ।
Good question. He is called douhitra.
यदि पुत्र्याः पुत्री तर्हि दौहित्री भवति ।
If it is daughter’s daughter, then she is called douhitree.

Lesson 8 Part-5

पितामहः - कः जानाति परीक्षितः महाराजस्य
मातामही का इति ?
Who remembers (knows) who was the maternal grandmother of Parikshit Maharaja ?

उषा, मोहन् - आवां न जानीवः ।
परन्तु , परीक्षित् महाराजा कस्य पुत्रः ?
We do not know butWhose son was Parikshit Maharaja?

पितामहः - सः अभिमन्योः पुत्रः ।
He was Abhimanyu’s son.

उषा, मोहन् - अभिमन्योः भार्या का ?

Who was Abhimanyu’s wife?

पितामहः - अभिमन्योः भार्या द्रुपदराजपुत्री उत्तरा आसीत् । अस्तु , अन्यं प्रश्नं पृच्छामि ।

Abhimanyu’s wife was Uttara, the princess of (kingdom of) Drupada. OK, let me ask another question.

दुर्योधनेन सह शकुनेः कः संबन्धः ?

What is the relationship between Sakuni and Duryodhana?

मोहन् - मातुलः ।

Uncle (Mother’s brother)

पितामहः - पाण्डवानां धृतराष्ट्रस्य कः संबन्धः ?

What is the relationship between Dhritarashtra and the Pandavas?

उषा - सः पाण्डवानां पितृव्यः खलु ।

Paternal Uncle of the Pandavas.

पितामहः - बाढं । तर्हि वदतं कुन्तीमाद्र्योः मिथः कः संबन्धः ?

Correct. Then tell what is the relationship between Kunthi and Madri?

उषा - सपत्न्यौ ।

Wives of the same person.

पितामहः - समीचीनं उत्तरम् ।

पाण्डुधृतराष्ट्रयोः पितामहः शन्तनुः , पितामही सत्यवती ।

Correct answer. Shantanu was the grandfather of Pandu and Dhritarashtra, and their grandmother Satyavati.

द्रौपदी कुन्त्याः स्नुषा आसीत् एवं पाण्डुः द्रौपद्याः श्वशुरः कुन्ती श्रूः च ।

Draupadi was the daughter in law of Kunthi and Pandu was Draupadi’s father in law. Kunthi

was the mother in law.

शकुनिः धृतराष्ट्रस्य स्यालः ।

Sakuni was Dhritarashtra’s brother in law.

धृतराष्ट्रः शकुनेः भगिनीपतिः ।

Dhritarashtra was Sakuni’s sister’s husband.
(Brother in law)

दुर्योधनः शकुनेः भागिनेयः ।

Duryodhana was Sakuni’s nephew (sister’s son).

कथा रोचते खलु । इतःपरं अन्यस्मिन् दिने पठामः ।
शुभरात्रिः ।

Story was interesting wasn’t it? Will follow it up another day. Good night.

Grammar for Lesson-8

__________ Part-1__________

प्रतिगत्वा - प्रति is used here like the English preposition "towards". However here it is a prefix and not an independent word.

प्रति may also be used like a preposition in Sanskrit. In such cases it will have different meanings like

"about" or "in connection with"

Unlike the perposition in English which is written before the noun, प्रति is written following the noun. When written like this, the noun which occurs before प्रति should be expressed in the Accusative case (द्वितीया विभक्तिः). Clearly this difference in use must be remembered. In lighter vein, should we call this a "postposition" rather than a "preposition"?

Here are some examples of the use of प्रति

सः गृहं प्रति गच्छति

He is going towards his house or just
He goes home.

प्रति is used after गृहं

Here is another example.

देवान् प्रति माक्स् मुल्लर् किं अवदत् ?

What did Max Muller say about the Vedas?

There is something else about प्रति which should be kept in mind.

प्रति may also be used as prefix to a verb, typically a transitive verb such as गच्छ (a verb of motion). Thus प्रतिगच्छति will mean "goes towards"

प्रति may also be used as a prefix to a noun as in प्रतिदिनम् which means "everyday".

Thus, when you see प्रति its meaning will depend on the context.

Is it used after a noun?
Is it a prefix to a verb?
Is it a prefix to a noun?

later in the lesson, you will read about

प्रतिभाति and प्रत्युत्तरम्

While on the use of प्रति, we might bring the reader's attention to a famous and important verse

आकाशात् पतितं तोयं यथा गच्छति सागरम्
सर्वदेव नमस्कारः केशवं प्रति गच्छति ॥

We will discuss the meaning of this beautiful verse in one of the later lessons.

Lesson-8 Grammar Part-2

द्रष्टुम् , श्रोतुम् - These are तुमुन् words. The concept of तुमुन् was introduced in Lesson-6

न आगमिष्यामि - literally ' I will not come'
In the context of this lesson, it should be taken to mean 'I will not go to see the movie' or simply 'I shall not come'.

विना एव - even without

विना - without.
Please remember that the noun against which
विना is used should be in the second case.
i.e., Accusative case (द्वितीया विभक्तिः)

पौत्रौ - Normally means two grandsons (द्विवचनम्).
There are some special conventions used in describing grandchildren. When both are of the same gender, the form depends on the gender.

Ex., पौत्रौ - two male grandchildren
पौत्र्यौ - two grand daughters
However in dual or plural, even if one of the grandchildren is male, the male form is used to refer to the two grandchildren. This applies to groups of people as well. Krishna and his Gopis (Gopika ladies) will be referred to as ते (m) and not as ताः (f).

एकस्मिन् - This is the seventh case of the pronoun एकः meaning "in a" or "in one"

तेषाम् - Their (m) Sixth case plural

नीलश्यामलम् - Adjective used to describe Lord krishna (his colour). It means dark blue. नीलं -Blue
श्यामलम् - dark. Note however the order of the colours in the expression.

तथापि - even then

कोऽयम् - कः + अयं A example of a Sandhi

एवं एव - Both are indeclinables. These may be used independently too. When used together they mean 'it is so'

मम अपि एवं एव - Here it means 'I too feel the same'.

तेजस्वी - A person with divine radiance.

वस्तुतः - actually, really, infact
this word is an indeclinable.

वर्णयामि - means describe, used in first person here.

कौरवपाण्डवानां - Example of a Samasam. This is a compound of two nouns. It means ' of Kauravas and Pandavas ' . The samasam is used in the dual form

as the compound noun is formed to describe two groups of people and not a group consisting of Kauravas and Pandavas. Hence the plural form

कौरवपाण्डवानां is used. When we examine it, the dual form does seem appropriate. Now if the grandfather were intending to refer to the Pandavas and Kauravas independently, the sentence would go like,

अद्य कौरवाणां पाण्डवानां च जन्मपर्यन्तं कथयामि ।

Lesson8: Grammar Part-3

जन्मपर्यन्तम् - Upto the birth

The word is also an indeclinable.

पर्यन्तं which denotes "upto" or "till" is added to nouns to indicate an event in time. It may also be used in this fashion to describe "upto a physcial boundary"

Examples;

कालपर्यन्तं - Upto the duration

अन्तिमपर्यन्तं - Till the last (of one’s life)

अन्तपर्यन्तं - Till the end

सीमापर्यन्तं - Upto the border

यावत् (पर्यन्तं) - Upto any amount of Time, or as much time. यावत् itself means till the end.

महिषी - Consort , used in the sense of King’s wife

आजीवनम् - As long as one lives

ब्रह्मचर्यव्रतं - vow of celebacy

भीष्म - means a person whom people approach with caution or fear.

(In the sense of not being able to find a person of match in respect of the great qualities of the person). In this case, he has taken a vow, a fearful one that can be fulfilled only on account of extraordinary courage.

क्रमेण - respectively or in the order

पाण्डोः - of Pandu

विचित्रवीर्येण - from or by Vichtraveerya

श्रीकृष्णस्य - SriKrishna's

मद्रदेशीया - of Madra Desa

All the above four words, reflect the use of nouns in different विभक्तिः

यस्मात् - तस्मात् - two words used as a pair. Usage is similar to यावत् - तावत्

यस्मात् means "since" or "because" and तस्मात् means "as a consequence". Here is an example of a sentence using this pair.

यस्मात् विश्वसंपर्कजालं अस्ति , तस्मात् भवान् एतत् संस्कृतपाठं पठितुं शक्नोति

Since the internet is there, you are able to read this Sanskrit lesson.

विश्वसंपर्कजालम् A compound noun built up of विश्वः world, संपर्क communication, जालम् net Based on the ending word, the compound noun becomes neuter.

जन्मप्रभृति - Congenitally, i.e., from birth

The word प्रभृति can be added to any process from any point. It means from then on. Some examples,

दुर्घटनाप्रभृति - from the time of the accident

परीक्षाप्रभृति - from the time of the examination

विवाहात्प्रभृति - from the time of marriage

पुत्रजननान्तरं - After the birth of the children. This is a compund word from पुत्र , जनन and अनन्तरं

अनन्तरं is an indeclinable.

अनन्तरं may be added as a suffix just as प्रभृति

विवाहानन्तरम् meaning after the marriage

यमलौ - twins

विराटराजमहिषी - the consort of the King of विराट (देशः.

A compound word formed from विराट , राजा and महिषी